

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of this application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 5-7 have been canceled. The written description, and claims 2-4 and 8, have been amended. Claims 2-4 and 8-12 are now pending in the application. The rejections are respectfully submitted to be obviated in view of the amendments and remarks presented herein. No new matter has been introduced through the foregoing amendments.

Applicants acknowledge with gratitude the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 8-12. Claim 8 has been amended to independent form. Claims 2-4 have been amended to depend from claim 8, and are also believed to be allowable.

The written description has been editorially amended with respect to the reference numbers referred to in the Office Action (i.e., to include in the specification the reference numbers present in Figs. 1(a) and 1(b), and 4(a) and 4(b)). As a result, no drawing amendments are necessary. The written description has also been reviewed as requested in the Office Action, and has been editorially amended to correct any informalities.

Entry of each of the amendments is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and pass this application to issue.

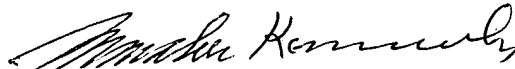
To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 11-0219, and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

U.S. Application No.: 10/759,278

Docket No.: D-1567

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Manabu Kanesaka".

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